

R.A.F. Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in R.R. and A.C.I. para 2340 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

5.47-20-452  
DAS.

Page No. 000

of (Unit or Formation) No. 432 (R.O.A.F.) Squadron.

11610

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
EASTMOOR	1.4.44.		COMPILING OFFICER:- C.8993 P/Lt. R.H. HARRIS. Eight crews were placed on day cross-countries. Two aircraft carried out circuits and bumps.		
EASTMOOR	2.4.44.		The bad weather restricted training to ground instruction.		
EASTMOOR	3.4.44.		Duff weather again precluded flying.		
EASTMOOR	4.4.44.		Due to poor weather and visibility, flying was restricted to several aircraft in circuits and bumps.		
EASTMOOR	5.4.44.		Owing to bad weather during day light no flying training was carried out. Remaining films were shown to all aircrew during the afternoon. Night flying was restricted to circuits and landings for three of the new crews. W/Odr. M.E. Smith (C.3183) Engineer Officer for No. 62 (RCAF) Base visited the Squadron during the afternoon.		
EASTMOOR	6.4.44.		Ground training was carried in all sections during the morning. Two aircraft were detailed for operations but were later cancelled. Night cross-country flights were also detailed and cancelled. The Base Commander, Air Commodore A.D. Ross (C.111) held an inspection parade at 1400 hours, of all <del>main</del> Station and Squadron Personnel. P/Lt. A.C. Holmes (C.10443) Honours and Awards Officer from H.Q. No. 6 Group visited the Squadron and gave some very helpful advice.		
EASTMOOR	7.4.44.		Four aircraft were detailed for a bombing operation, which was later cancelled. Four crews were detailed for a day cross-country which was carried out. A "Bullseye" was detailed for to-night but was later cancelled.		
EASTMOOR	8.4.44.		No operations were detailed for the day. Two crews carried out a Wet Dinghy Drill at the Swimming Baths in town. Two crews completed day cross-countries and three crews were on a fighter affiliation. The night flying training consisted in three aircraft taking part in a "Bullseye Exercise" and three more aircraft on a cross-country. These six aircraft were recalled owing to the bad weather closing in at Base.		
EASTMOOR	9.4.44.		Fourteen aircraft were detailed for a bombing operation on the Marshalling Yards at Villeneuve-St. Georges near Paris. All aircraft took off and successfully bombed the Yards which could be clearly seen in the bright moonlight. Several photographs with good ground detail were obtained. All aircraft returned safely to Base.		A.836 to A.849
EASTMOOR	10.4.44.		G/Opt. H.H.C. McKedge (C.149) took over the command of the Station vice G/Opt. G.L. Wurtelle (37200) Fourteen aircraft were detailed for a bombing operation on the Marshalling Yards at GREYTS, BELGIUM. All aircraft took off but one returned early owing to a technical failure. Thirteen aircraft successfully bombed the Yards and all returned safely to Base. Two new crews were posted in from Conversion Unit for Operational duties.		A.850 to A.863
EASTMOOR	11.4.44.		No operations were detailed for to-day. Circuits and landings were practised with the new crews. Day cross-countries were detailed but owing to bad weather away from the Base were later cancelled. Two aircraft carried out local bombing practice. Ground training was carried out in all sections. Two new crews were posted in for operational duties.		

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EASTMOOR	22.4.44.		No operations were scheduled for to-day. A full flying training program was scheduled. Five aircraft carried out details of circuits and landings. Four aircraft completed air to air firing in the afternoon. Eight night cross-country flights were completed successfully. At about 1730 hours word was received by telephone that one of our aircraft on air to air firing had crashed a few miles from Scarborough. All the crews were killed with the exception of the top gunner, R207301 Sgt. MacNeil, D.S. A ground crew fitter who was with them as a passenger also lost his life. Below are the members of the crew who lost their lives:-		LW 614 "S"
			R156755 F/S. CLARKE, Arthur, Kenneth. (Pilot)		
			R152383 F/S. Woodard, Thomas, Harold. (Nav.)		
			R153175 Sgt. CRANCH, Francis, Edward. (A/B.)		
			R155321 Sgt. HINDMARSH, Felix, Campbell. (WOP/AG.)		
			R152925 Sgt. BELL, David, Gordon. (A/G.)		
			R1523572 Sgt. HALLIWELL, Harvey. (A/G.)		
			R152262 LFT. MACKENZIE, David, Victor. (Passenger.)		
			During the day G/Cpt. H.H.G. Rutledge (G.142) visited the Squadron and was shown through the various sections by the Squadron Commander W/Odr. W.A. McKay (J.15175).		
EASTMOOR	23.4.44.		Owing to poor weather conditions only local flying was carried out. Circuits and landings were detailed and carried out. One air to air firing and practice bombing was also carried out. Ground training and lectures were carried out in all sections.		
EASTMOOR	24.4.44.		Eight aircraft were detailed for operations which were cancelled just before take off time.		
EASTMOOR	25.4.44.		A "Bulls-eye Exercise" scheduled for the evening was later cancelled, and nine night cross-countries were detailed to replace it, but were later cancelled owing to bad weather.		
EASTMOOR	26.4.44.		A full program of flying training was carried out. Two aircraft were detailed on Air to Air firing, two on a bombing practice and twelve on night cross-countries.		
EASTMOOR	27.4.44.		Twelve aircraft took part in day cross-countries and eleven on night cross-countries.		
EASTMOOR	28.4.44.		Fourteen aircraft were detailed for a bombing operation on the Marshalling Yards at Noisy-le-Sec near Paris. All aircraft took off and successfully bombed the yards with good results. One of our aircraft failed to return from this operation and nothing was heard from any member of the crew after his take off time. Below are the members of the crews with their operational trips and hours:-		
				OPERATIONAL	
			J.20286 F/O. <sup>Crew</sup> Cameron, <sup>Passenger</sup> GEORGE, MURCHER (Pilot)	Trips	Hours
			J.19147 F/O. James, Bond, BELL. (Nav.)	19 1/6	124:13
			159718 F/O. Allen, Harry, HERMAN. (A/B.)	20 1/6	144:32
			1320678n Sgt. FENT, Stanley, David. (WOP/AG)	26 2/3	167:55
			152378n Sgt. MCCLUSKIE, Alexander. (A/G.)	17 1/6	124:42
			1.1930n F/O. Alexander, <sup>Nav.</sup> MCGREGOR. (A/G.)	9 2/3	77:14
			172207 F/O. Walter, Harris, KENT. (A/G.)	20 2/3	127:29
			R186153 Sgt. SHANAHAN, Gerard, Joseph. (A/G.)	15 1/6	107:23
				1 1/2	8:29
EASTMOOR	29.4.44.		Duff weather prevented flying, restricting training to ground instructions.		





Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
EASTMOOR	27.4.44	(Continued)			
				OPERATIONAL	
				Trips	Hours
			J.28904 P/O, Laurie, Daniel, DELOUGHRY. (Pilot)	2 1/3	15:35
			J.28324 P/O, John, Wilson, McCLAY. (Nav.)	Nil	Nil
			J.28688 P/O, Gordon, Hewlett, PARKER. (A/B.)	Nil	Nil
			R128561 P/O, Staff, Richard, SIMON. (W/O/AG)	Nil	Nil
			R197022 Sgt. DAVIS, Harry, WALTER. (A/G.)	1	6:30
			G.18588 P/O. John, Williams, KERR. (A/G.)	1	6:30
			R189116 Sgt. FARRALL, George, CARMEL. (A/G.)	Nil	Nil
			1827667 Sgt. SHRAMER, James. (P/E.)	Nil	Nil
EASTMOOR	28.4.44		Aircraft "G" orange piloted by J.19885 P/O. Webb, J.L. on his first trip as captain put up a marvelous show, as can be seen from the detail statement, herewith attached.		App. No.2
EASTMOOR	28.4.44		One aircraft took part on a fighter affiliation, six on a bombing practice and five on a night cross-country.		
EASTMOOR	29.4.44		The Squadron celebrated its first anniversary of its formation on May the 1st, 1943. A gala party was held in the Officer's Mess, and the event was appropriately commemorated.		
EASTMOOR	30.4.44		Eleven aircraft were detailed for an operation on the Marshalling Yards at SOMAIN. One aircraft was cancelled due to a technical failure. Ten aircraft bombed their objectives successfully and all returned to base without incident. L		APPENDIX A-902
			GENERAL: The Squadron had a busy month, having put in nine bombing operations, involving 122 sorties, totalling 560 hours. The luck was with us until the heavy loss of three crews, noted above, on Montzen. The training program kept apace with 300 flying hours being put in on cross-countries and other exercises. Latterly both the number of sorties and training flights were curtailed due to shortage of aircraft. April 30th, 1944 marked the end of the first year of operations for No. 432 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron, a year not untouched with glory. Despite the fact that during this period the Unit had converted from Wellingtons to Lancaster II (involving a move from Skipton to Eastmoor) and from the latter to aircraft to Halifax III, the Squadron accomplished 957 sorties.		
			Statistical TOTAL FOR THE MONTH:		
			(i) Operational Hours: 560:30		
			(ii) Non-Operational Hours: 300:00		
			(iii) Number of Operational Sorties: 122 sorties.		
			(iv) Bombs dropped from 1.1.44 to 31.3.44: 33	INCENDIARIES	317
			Bombs dropped during April: 361		60
			AIRCRAFT ON CHARGE: 16 Halifax III.		
			HONOURS AND AWARDS:- 171335 P/O. W.C.A. Fay was awarded the D.F.C. on the 4th April, 1944. J.15175 W/O. W.A. McKay, J.19065 P/O. G.I. Phillips, and J.19187 P/O. W.A. Thompson, were awarded the D.F.C. during the month.		
			MOVEMENTS: (i) To the Unit:- J.19885 P/O. Webb, J.L. (Pilot) Posted from No. 61 (RCAF) Base. w.e.f. 10.4.44. R160428 Sgt. Burdock, A. (NAV.) R150966 Sgt. Warring, R. (A/B.)		

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 432 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

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<b>MOVEMENTS:-</b>					
<b>(1) to the Unit (Continued)</b>					
			R118747 Sgt. Rawle, H.G. (WOP/AG) Posted from No. 61 (RCAF) Base		
			R207226 Sgt. Zienko, W.J. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R207740 Sgt. Wright, W.J. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R189066 Sgt. Addy, F. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J. 21377 F/O. Lawrence, R.B. (Pilot) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J22240 F/O. McKay, W.J. (Nav.) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J28803 F/O. Donohoe, D.C. (A/B) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R159220 F/S. Barle, A.W.G. (WOP/AG) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R174711 Sgt. Ison, R.F. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R185395 Sgt. Paquette, L.V. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R824633 Sgt. Barriag, J.H. (P/E) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J7438 F/L. Larson, G.W. (Pilot) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R161107 Sgt. Cole, H.F. (Nav.) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R27429 F/O. Mills, R. (A/B) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J. 11616 F/O. Boman, G.W. (WOP/AG) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R199360 Sgt. Robinson, A.F. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R195279 Sgt. Viennesu, R.F. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			L197935 Sgt. Edwards, R. (P/E) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J. 26804 F/O. Deloughry, L.B. (Pilot) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J. 26324 F/O. McClay, J.M. (Nav.) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R128561 F/S. Small, R.L. (WOP/AG) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J. 28558 F/O. Parker, G.H. (A/B) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R197002 Sgt. Davis, H.W. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			G18588 F/O. Kerr, J.W. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R823667 Sgt. Shearer, J. (P/E) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J. 12339 F/O. Jack, R.A. (Pilot) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J. 23162 F/O. Derry, M. (Nav.) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			L119440 Sgt. Holt, P.A.L. (WOP/AG) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R159287 F/S. Fhuaster, A.L. (A/B) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			L482147 Sgt. Kinch, P.E. (P/E) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R183734 Sgt. Remy, N.D. (A/B) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R186663 Sgt. McFadden, J.J. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J. 27259 F/O. Smith, V.E. (Pilot) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J. 27412 F/O. Given, S.E. (Nav.) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R162139 Sgt. McFadden, W.D. (WOP/AG) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			J. 28894 F/O. Ferguson, A.R. (A/B) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			2202858 Sgt. Hollingsworth, G.P. (P/E) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R185598 Sgt. Wells, J.M. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		
			R192636 Sgt. Easton, M.O. (A/G) " " " " " " " " " " " "		

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			<b>MOVEMENTS:-</b> (i) to the Unit (Continued)		
			J.12997 F/O. Martin, W.R. (Pilot) Posted from No. 61 (RCAP) Base w.e.f. 23.4.44		
			J.27423 F/O. Pansar, L. (Max.) " " " " " " " "		
			R109250 Sgt. Cummings, K.L. (W/C/A/G.) " " " " " " " "		
			F.28953 F/O. D'Andree, D.A. (A/G.) " " " " " " " "		
			2211651 Sgt. Mellor, P. G. (P/S.) " " " " " " " "		
			R209139 Sgt. McCormick, K.L. (A/G.) " " " " " " " "		
			R189316 Sgt. Farrell, G.G. (A/G.) " " " " " " " "		
			J.12290 F/O. Meaden, W.H.D. (Pilot) Posted from No. 405 (RCAP) Squadron. w.e.f. 26.4.44		
			J.18687 F/O. Barker, J. (Nav.) " " " " " " " "		
			148625 F/O. Gelderwood, W. (W/C/AIR) " " " " " " " "		
			R134962 F/O. Alexander, R.R. (A/G.) " " " " " " " "		
			CAN.61908 W/O. McGowan, H.A. (A/G.) " " " " " " " "		
			172208 F/O. Chamberlain, H. (P/S.) " " " " " " " "		
			7446484 F/S. Shank, T. (A/G.) Posted from No. 433 (RCAP) Squadron. w.e.f. 29.4.44		
			<b>MOVEMENTS:-</b> (ii) from the Unit:-		
			1556482 Sgt. Turnbull, A. (A/G.) Posted to No. 62 (RCAP) Base w.e.f. 2.4.44		
			J.6720 S/Ldr. Hess, G.B. DFC (Pilot) Posted to No. 1659 C.U. w.e.f. 11.4.44		
			R207301 Sgt. MacNeil, D. (A/G.) Posted to No. 62 (RCAP) Base w.e.f. 13.4.44		
			019661 F/O. Quennel, H. DFC (A/G.) Posted to No. 62 (RCAP) Base w.e.f. 18.4.44		
			156800 F/O. Hannafor, R.J. (W/C/AIR) Posted to No. 61 (RCAP) Base w.e.f. 23.4.44		
			J.17930 F/O. Dorlan, R. DFC (A/G.) Posted to No. 61 (RCAP) Base w.e.f. 25.4.44		
			J.12866 F/O. Burnett, H. (A/G.) Posted to No. 61 (RCAP) Base w.e.f. 25.4.44		
			977055 Sgt. Buckley, J. (P/S.) Posted to No. 61 (RCAP) Base w.e.f. 25.4.44		
			<b>PROMOTIONS:-</b>		
			138420 F/O. Sherriff, J.S. Appointed to the rank of A/Pt. w.e.f. 13.3.44		
			J1477 F/Lt. Lowe, A.D.R. Appointed to the rank of A/S/Ldr. w.e.f. 10.4.44		
			95036 F/Lt. Barrett, C.K. Appointed to the rank of A/S/Ldr. w.e.f. 10.4.44		
			<b>COMMISSIONING:-</b> 616713 Sgt. Gilliard, J. (54452), 11A0103 F/S. McFarlane, J. (174001), 131824 F/S. Woolfenden, P.B. (173999), 182304 Sgt. Houston, J.M. (174233), CAN.776. W/O. Cooper, J.J. (J.85602), R157640 F/S. Fernyhough, W. (J.85610), R169354 F/S. Kennedy, H.J. (J.85673), R139629 F/O. Hancock, B.B. (J.85634), 1803614 Sgt. Hestrey, J. (174783).		
			<b>CHANGES IN COMMAND:-</b> S/Ldr. C.K. Barrett, (J.5036) assumed command of "A" Flight vice S/Ldr. W.H. Strachan (J.2863). S/Ldr. A.D.R. Lowe (J.1477) assumed command of "B" Flight vice S/Ldr. G.B. Hess DFC (J.6720).		
			<b>ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES:-</b> NIL		

